

COMPLETE LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS IN APPLICATION

1. (Currently amended) A reusable, collapsible, cleanable shipping container having:

a bottom with a peripheral edge,

first and second opposed pairs of walls,

hinges connecting the walls each to an edge of the bottom, the hinges being

formed of a unitary piece of resilient, flexible material fused to the walls and

bottom to form a seamless joint between the flexible material and the walls and

between the flexible material and the bottom,

the walls having a first open position in which they extend away from the bottom

and lie generally in the plane of the bottom, and

a second, erect position in which the walls extend upward from the base to form a container, ~~[[and]]~~

force transmitting surfaces on the walls and bottom that transmit upward and

downward vertical forces between the walls and the bottom when the walls are in

the erect position and thereby limit the extent to which said forces are transmitted

between the walls and bottom through the hinges, and

wherein the walls and bottom are formed of a thermoplastic material and the

hinges are formed of a different thermoplastic material.

2. The container of claim 1 wherein the bottom includes elevated surfaces for mounting at least some of the hinges.

3. The container of claim 2 wherein alternate walls are hinged to elevated surfaces.

4. The container of claim 1 where in the walls each define a plane and the surfaces on the walls include surfaces substantially normal to the respective planes.

5. (Amended) ~~A reusable, collapsible, cleanable shipping container having:~~
~~a bottom with a peripheral edge,~~
~~first and second opposed pairs of walls,~~
~~hinges connecting the walls each to an edge of the bottom, the hinges being~~
~~formed of a unitary piece of resilient, flexible material fused to the walls and~~
~~bottom to form a seamless joint between the flexible material and the walls and~~
~~between the flexible material and the bottom,~~
~~the walls having a first open position in which they extend away from the bottom~~
~~and lie generally in the plane of the bottom, and~~
~~a second, erect position in which the walls extend upward from the base to form~~
~~a container, and~~
~~force transmitting surfaces on the walls and bottom that transmit forces between~~
~~the walls and the bottom when the walls are in the erect position and thereby limit~~
~~the extent to which said forces are transmitted between the walls and bottom~~
~~through the hinges,~~
~~the walls each defining a plane and the surfaces on the walls include surfaces~~
~~substantially normal to the respective planes, and~~
~~wherein the bottom includes a T shaped projection that forms a part of the force~~
~~transmitting surfaces.~~

The container of claim 4 wherein the bottom includes a T shaped projection that forms a part of the force transmitting surfaces.

6. (Amended) ~~A reusable, collapsible, cleanable shipping container having:~~
~~a bottom with a peripheral edge,~~
~~first and second opposed pairs of walls,~~
~~hinges connecting the walls each to an edge of the bottom, the hinges being~~
~~formed of a unitary piece of resilient, flexible material fused to the walls and~~
~~bottom to form a seamless joint between the flexible material and the walls and~~
~~between the flexible material and the bottom,~~
~~the walls having a first open position in which they extend away from the bottom~~
~~and lie generally in the plane of the bottom, and~~
~~a second, erect position in which the walls extend upward from the base to form~~
~~a container, and~~
~~force transmitting surfaces on the walls and bottom that transmit forces between~~
~~the walls and the bottom when the walls are in the erect position and thereby limit~~
~~the extent to which said forces are transmitted between the walls and bottom~~
~~through the hinges,~~
~~the walls each defining a plane and the surfaces on the walls include surfaces~~
~~substantially normal to the respective planes, and~~
~~wherein the bottom includes at least two T shaped projections and at least some~~
~~of the walls include T shaped openings that cooperate with the T shaped~~
~~projections of the bottom to transmit loads between the walls and the bottom.~~

The container of claim 4 wherein the bottom includes at least two T shaped projections and at least some of the walls include T shaped openings that cooperate with the T shaped projections of the bottom to transmit loads between the walls and the bottom.

7. The container of claim 1 wherein the walls define an outside surface when in the erect position and include a recess for receiving a band extending around the outside surface that retains the walls in the erect position.

8. The container of claim 7 wherein the band is removable.

9. (Amended) The container of claim 7 wherein the walls include ~~[[a]]~~ ribs and the recess includes notches formed in the ribs adjacent an edge of at least some of the walls.

10. (Currently amended) A reusable, collapsible, cleanable shipping container having:

a bottom with a peripheral edge,

first and second opposed pairs of walls,

hinges connecting the walls each to an edge of the bottom, the hinges being

formed of a unitary piece of resilient, flexible material fused to the walls and

bottom to form a seamless joint between the flexible material and the walls and

between the flexible material and the bottom,

the walls having a first open position in which they extend away from the bottom

and lie generally in the plane of the bottom, and

a second, erect position in which the walls extend upward from the base to form

a container, ~~[[and]]~~

force transmitting surfaces on the walls and bottom that transmit upward and downward vertical forces between the walls and the bottom when the walls are in the erect position and thereby limit the extent to which said forces are transmitted between the walls and bottom through the hinges, and wherein the walls and bottom are formed of a thermoplastic material and the hinges are formed of a different thermoplastic material, wherein the bottom includes elevated surfaces for mounting at least some of the hinges,

alternate walls are hinged to the elevated surfaces, and

~~The container of claim 3~~ wherein the walls have a third position in which alternate walls are folded flat against the bottom, and the remaining walls are folded against the alternate walls, the walls being moveable repeatably between the three positions.

11. Cancel.

12. The container of claim ~~[[14]]~~ 1 wherein the walls and bottom are injection molded and thereafter the hinges are injection molded, the process of injection molding the hinges simultaneously fusing the hinges to the walls and bottom.

13. The container of claim 1 including a third opposed pair of walls.